Greetings from the award-winning Department of Theatre in the College of Charleston’s School of the Arts!

First, a most heart-felt “thank you” to you - the arts supporter - for taking the time to peruse our 2010-11 season brochure. Like all arts organizations, we could not fulfill our mission without your support! But even more importantly, theatre isn’t theatre without an audience. We invite newcomers to consider becoming season subscribers and returning patrons to renew their subscriptions.

We pride ourselves on presenting some of the most diverse seasons to be found in our fair city, and this year is no exception. Our year begins as always with Shakespeare’s most fantastical romance *Cymbeline*, paired with a contemporary play, an adaptation of his most famous love story, *Romeo and Juliet*. In honor of our 20th Anniversary and to support the School of the Arts Gala, we follow with: *Tintypes*, a musical co-written by CofC alumnus Mel Marvin; *The Beggar’s Opera* by Vaclav Havel, an hysterical and politically charged adaptation; *Outrage*, a new comedy by Itamar Moses; a touching drama *Long Time Since Yesterday* by African-American writer PJ Gibson; and we close with a skillfully crafted and glittering adaptation of Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice* by Jon Jory. Plus, we add in our annual Dance Concert (a fast growing audience favorite) for eight productions in total.

In addition to a season subscription please indulge me as I also ask you to consider a tax-deductible contribution. The details of our various giving levels may be found inside, but allow me to point out one special award. Our most exciting and most rapidly growing gift level is the Clarence Award - which pairs you, the donor, with one of our students. Your generousity goes directly to assisting the student in reaching his/her academic goals!

Join us for a year of entertainment that will bring you laughter and tears, will enlighten and enchant, and will undoubtedly blend perfectly action and word - in the original 3-D entertainment - Theatre!

**Todd McNerney, CHAIR OF THE THEATRE DEPARTMENT**
Cymbeline

BY William Shakespeare
DIRECTED BY Todd McNerney
VENUE Emmett Robinson Theatre, 54 St. Philip Street

Written near the end of his life, this enchanting masterpiece will surely capture your heart as Shakespeare deftly combines multiple styles in this endlessly inventive fairytale. It is the romantic story of the virtuous princess Imogen—heir to Cymbeline’s kingdom—and features forbidden love, mistaken identities, banishment, romance, tragedy, loss, forgiveness, fantasy, epic battles, an evil step-mother, absurd comedy and even a magic potion. But even more importantly, it contains some of the Bard’s most exquisitely defined language and characters!

AUGUST 2010

SHOWTIMES ARE 8 P.M. EXCEPT SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

Shakespeare’s R and J

BY Joe Calarco
DIRECTED BY Katie Huard
VENUE Chapel Theatre, 172 Calhoun Street

Shakespeare’s R & J is an arresting, vibrant & hot-blooded adaptation of Romeo and Juliet that pulsates with an adolescent abandon and electricity of which the young lovers themselves might approve. Taking place after curfew in the repressive world of a parochial boarding school, four students discover Shakespeare’s incredible love story. What starts off as a lighthearted reading of the forbidden text gradually becomes more dangerous as these young people are allowed to explore their pent up energy and adolescent passion. Their experiment ends in an impassioned and honest performance of the play without the restrictions of gender or sexuality.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2010

SHOWTIMES ARE 8 P.M. EXCEPT SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

Tintypes

BOOK BY Mary Kyte, Gary Pearle and College of Charleston’s own Mel Marvin (’62)
DIRECTED BY Robert Ivey
VENUE Emmett Robinson Theatre, 54 St. Philip Street

Tintypes chronicles the growing pains of our nation by placing us in pre-World War I America. It is told in the exuberant words and music of that time (featuring works by George M. Cohan, John Philip Sousa and Scott Joplin, among others) and includes a blend of patriotic songs, romantic tunes, and ragtime including “You’re A Grand Old Flag,” “Yankee Doodle Boy,” and “America the Beautiful.” The songs are woven together by the stories of five archetypal characters from that era: a Chaplin-esque immigrant, socialist Emma Goldman, an African-American domestic worker, Teddy Roosevelt and Ziegfield Follies star and pin-up girl, Anna Held. Come see our country’s history come alive in this musical greeting card from the past!

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

SHOWTIMES ARE 8 P.M. EXCEPT SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

The Beggar’s Opera

BY John Gay
DIRECTED BY Mark Landis
VENUE Emmett Robinson Theatre, 54 St. Philip Street

Former Czech Republic President and political dissident Vaclav Havel’s adaptation of John Gay’s 1728 ballad opera is not an opera at all -- it is a comedy, a political satire and an explicitly damning commentary on totalitarianism. Written in 1975, only seven years after the Prague Spring, it places Macheath, Peachum, and the rest of the original play’s famous characters in a farcical underworld, ruled by an oppressive, powerful bureaucracy, which by its very nature takes away its citizens’ humanity. Originally performed in 1976 for a single night (it was then declared samizdat - illegal underground literature), its cynical overtones still reverberate with us today.

NOVEMBER 2010

SHOWTIMES ARE 8 P.M. EXCEPT SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.
Outrage

BY Itamar Moses
DIRECTED BY Allen Lyndrup
VENUE Chapel Theatre, 172 Calhoun Street

Moses’ contemporary comedy deftly moves between the present day and three other time periods with energy and wit, taking the audience on a time-bending roller-coaster ride through history. A slacker graduate student’s attempt to find an “easy” thesis topic instead places him at the center of an escalating power struggle to control the future of a prestigious university. As he explores the price that Socrates, legendary playwright Bertolt Brecht, and a sixteenth century Italian miller paid for sticking to their beliefs, he discovers that even in the ivory tower, principles still have a cost. An irreverent epic, it explores the power of martyrdom, the power of theatre, the threat of new thought, and how the revolutionary of one era becomes the tyrant of the next.

JANUARY 2011

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Outrage

SHOWTIMES ARE 8 P.M. EXCEPT SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

Long Time Since Yesterday

BY PJ Gibson
DIRECTED BY Joy Vandervort-Cobb
VENUE Emmett Robinson Theatre, 54 St. Philip Street

This highly acclaimed drama is set at the unfortunate reunion of former college classmates, who have gathered for the funeral of a friend that has killed herself. While at the wake (and over bourbon and memories) they explore their past, causing tempers to flare and blame to be apportioned. In the end, these prosperous, professional black women, all of whom lived through the turbulent sixties and came out on top in the eighties, confront the truth about their own lives and about the suicide that has brought them together.

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2011

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Long Time Since Yesterday

SHOWTIMES ARE 8 P.M. EXCEPT SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

Collaborations - a dance concert

CHOREOGRAPHED BY Dance Faculty
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Gretchen McLaine
VENUE Emmett Robinson Theatre, 54 St. Philip Street

Our annual dance performance takes the unique position of centering around the idea that, as sentient beings, we have an undeniable urge to make meaningful connections with those around us. As artists, the collaborative process allows us to fulfill this desire and to explore new depths of artistic creation. Collaborations will present exciting works forged in that spirit of collaboration with others across our department, our campus and in the surrounding artistic community.

MARCH 2011

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Collaborations

SHOWTIMES ARE 8 P.M. EXCEPT SUNDAYS AT 3 P.M.

Pride and Prejudice

BY Jane Austen, ADAPTED BY Jon Jory
DIRECTED BY Evan Parry
VENUE Emmett Robinson Theatre, 54 St. Philip Street

A sparkling adaptation penned by former Actor’s Theatre of Louisville Artistic Director Jon Jory, brings the beloved novel with its story of the five Bennet sisters fully to life with all of the romantic misunderstandings, the rejected proposals, and the requisite happy endings. At the center of the story is the sharp-witted Elizabeth and her exploration of romance—led not just with her beauty, but also with her brain—as she meets the enigmatic Mr. Darcy. Along with swooning romance, the play deals with its accompanying obstacles - family baggage, social class and money matters with delicious wit and surprisingly clear-eyed observations.

APRIL 2011

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Pride and Prejudice

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Subscription Order Form

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Showtimes are at 8 p.m. except Sunday shows (*) at 3 p.m.

Questions? Contact the Theatre Department • 843.953.6306 or oleksiakm@cofc.edu. For federal tax purposes, your contribution is deductible to the extent allowed by law. College of Charleston Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. For information about all the benefits and higher levels of giving, please contact the school of the arts • 843.953.5348.